

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN
SOUTHERN DIVISION

ROBERT TAYLOR BROWN,

Plaintiff,

v.

MARTINO et al.,

Defendants.

Case No. 24-13092
Honorable Laurie J. Michelson

ORDER TRANSFERRING CASE TO THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN

Robert Taylor Brown, who is currently confined at the Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility in Ionia, Michigan, filed this *pro se* civil rights action under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 alleging constitutional violations by multiple Michigan Department of Corrections employees. (ECF No. 1.) In an opinion and order entered today (ECF No. 8), the Court dismissed all claims against Defendants Martino, Hadden, Buchin, Chevette, Arrendondo, Breedlove, and Porter and dismissed Brown's official-capacity claims against all defendants.

The 16 defendants who remain are all residents of Ionia County for venue purposes, *see O'Neill v. Battisti*, 472 F.2d 789, 791 (6th Cir. 1972) (per curiam), and the events giving rise to Brown's complaint occurred in Ionia County at the Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility, where Brown is currently incarcerated. Thus, under 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b), venue is proper in the Western District of Michigan, and transfer to the Western District is in the interest of justice under 28 U.S.C. § 1406(a). *See Miles*

v. *WTMX Radio*, 15 F. App'x 213, 215 (6th Cir. 2001); *Cosmichrome, Inc. v. Spectra Chrome, LLC*, 504 F. App'x 468, 472 (6th Cir. 2012) (noting that “a district court has the power to *sua sponte* transfer [the] case” under § 1406(a)). Transfer is likewise in the interest of justice under 28 U.S.C. § 1404(a) and appropriate for the convenience of the parties and witnesses. *See Overland, Inc. v. Taylor*, 79 F. Supp. 2d 809, 811 (E.D. Mich. 2000); *Carver v. Knox County*, 887 F.2d 1287, 1291 (6th Cir. 1989) (noting that “a district court may transfer a case *sua sponte*” under § 1404(a)).

Accordingly, the Court orders the Clerk of Court to transfer this case to the United States District Court for the Western District of Michigan. The Court makes no determination as to the merits of Brown’s claims against the remaining defendants.

SO ORDERED.

Dated: May 12, 2025

s/Laurie J. Michelson
LAURIE J. MICHELSON
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE